

CWNA newsletter

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R.L.Davis, Editor

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ALL DONE

THE SPRING SHOW is over, so instead of a lot of words we have pictures on the reverse. See anyone you know? I suppose you know most of the details by now, so it should be enough to say some people did a good job, worked hard and C.W.N.A. is more than a thousand richer. On to the next one.

REMEMBER

FALL MEETING will be at the Boulder show this year. This is the chance to make your views known, vote, etc. When you don't you give up some of your rights to complain, since who should care about you if you can't give some time to attend a fall meeting.

GOOD NEWS

SEVERAL CLUBS HAVE joined CWNA in the last few months. They are Casper, Wyo. Pueblo, Colo. Sprgs. Numis. Society, and American Numis. Error club. It is refreshing when most people realize that by joining together we can work for a common good. Isolation in coin clubs and/or nations can only lead to collapse.

Think!!

It's your choice, but get facts not rumor, then see how CWNA measures up.

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final quote

VERY SOON WE GO through the annual rite called election of officers. I hope the new group will be representative of the two state area and in approximate distribution as to the number of clubs in a "home" of each officer. What criteria should be used for selection is a usual concern of those nominating and/or electing the officers, so I thought I would list a few as my thoughts of qualifications.

The official should:

- have time to spend on the work of CWNA, without too many other obligations.

- not have a "vested" interest in his business or home club, that will keep him from making objective decisions on CWNA.

- be willing to put CWNA in a first position. To grow strong as an organization we can not always please everyone.

- be representative of the "home" area and it's club or clubs. The majority of the collectors should be the one's determining the direction of CWNA, not a small group.

IT'S YOUR CHOICE
GET TO THE MEETING

Goodbye

R. L. Davis

NOTICE

THE CAPTION on one notice is using the term "leading". I wonder if the poll involved more than 2 people.

GLAD to see more club notice of shows, etc. in their club memos. How about some group visits to shows and other of the clubs? Can't hurt!!

HAVE you noticed some of the notices are rather newsy? I hope this increases, but do not forget ANA, CWNA, national press, etc. Advertising is good for the hobby.

FALL SHOW

THE FALL CWNA Show is to be held at the Harvest House in Boulder on Sept 7, 8 and 9th. Mark Moyer, general chairman has promised bigger and better in all things. Let's get out and help him. Also this is the annual meeting of the CWNA. Time to see other members, elect new officers, to air complaints, etc.

See you there!

JOIN

CWNA

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COLO-WYO

WHY?

I am writing this little message, not as a historical piece, but to try to explain to those interested just what seemed to be in the minds of those few individuals when Colo-Wyo formed in 1952.

Let's set the stage. Coin interest was only starting to build compared to the nationwide interest we have today. We all seem to relate to coin values so let's quote a couple from the Red Book of 1951-52. 1909-s-VDB cents in UNCIRCULATED condition were quoted at \$12.50 (a fine one brought \$8.50). Common dates of Barber quarters \$6.50 in PROOF. If you wanted a Barber half, it would cost you \$900.

So much for coin pricing. It merely illustrates the demand that existed for choice material. This was the setting when a few scattered coin collectors in Colo-Wyo were talking about a dualstate coin group.

A good friend of C.W.N.A., Mr. Lewis Reagan of A.N.A. had visited our Rocky Mountain area many times during that period of time. He visited with coin groups and expressed a sincere desire to fill the void that existed between the mid-western states and the Pacific coast. Mr. Reagan, on behalf of the American Numismatic Association, offered any support that ANA could give. For this, Colo-Wyo should be eternally grateful. Mr. Reagan saw to it personally that our group received display cases on loan from A.N.A. Cases were as big a headache then as they are now--even more so when there was so little in funds.

There were some pretty obvious benefits if Colo-Wyo could get support like that. It must be remembered that the coins a collector could see would be those of another local club member, or occasionally those of a visiting collector from another area. Coin shows, as we know them now just didn't exist. It was clear that the only way this thinly populated area would see more variety of

displays and a better selection of material from dealers was with a coin show or convention sponsored by a responsible group of people dedicated to see that the job was done.

Even from its beginning, Colo-Wyo tried its best to see that all the area was represented in its guiding group of officers. Many times then even as it is now, the local club presidents or other officers would represent their group at Colo-Wyo. Shows on an annual basis, were scheduled up and down our east-west slope. It's indeed unfortunate today that our shows (I still like to think of them as conventions) must be tied so closely to tremendous attendance and financial success. Dealers who visit here must have some assurance of reasonably good sales to justify the time and expense to get here. One of the beauties of having dealers visit us is to see some of the fabulous pieces in the coin collecting world.

Next, we consider private collectors coin displays. Here we see one of the primary motives Colo-Wyo had from the start. Let's not forget we are talking about a time when there were little or no funds to encourage fine displays. Collectors, bless their heart, spent long and tedious hours to assemble their works of art with the possibility of getting a pretty ribbon and some fleeting recognition at a coin banquet (meat was cheaper then). Anyway, Colo-Wyo encouraged some fine competition then, and has been most gratified to see the displays grow into a real art.

It wasn't long before Colo-Wyo had accumulated some display cases of its own, and, since Colo-Wyo was organized to help, it willingly loaned them to any and all organized clubs who needed such material for annual shows of theirs or other special events. It is still the policy today. We can look back over the years to helping both

large and small shows get their start without any thought of compensation or profit.

Those who are able to attend the appropriate meetings know that the officers all favor educational forums and speaker teams for individual club meetings. If any local coin club lets its needs be known, it can contact the association secretary or other officers and get some help on programs or speakers. This is a service of the association, and I know CWNA is glad to give it.

Now, if you've read this far you get one humble collector's opinion of the reason for Colo-Wyo--why people thought of it in the first place, what they thought it could do for both states, and why they want it to continue to grow. Actually, when a very few disgruntled people ask "what can Colo-Wyo do for me", it is sort of a low blow. A person might just as well ask what a distant club in the same state can do for them. The answer is mighty little. But if the individual collector's club, and the distant club, and all the other clubs in between try to join hands and put on a presentable show for him, THAT help them. Try to see Colo-Wyo as a club for coin clubs. All state or interstate coin groups are exactly the same. Their very EXISTENCE is to help the other guy. Remember, they are non-profit, fraternal, educational institutions. When you see a Colo-Wyo Coin Show, you know everyone connected with it put in a lot of time, a lot of planning, and usually some money, with the knowledge he won't receive one dime (clad, that is).

On the other hand, find out if you can help CWNA. It is just like the marines. It is always looking for a few good men (women, too). How would we ever get a show "on the road" without our hard-working gals. If you can help, tell someone.

PIECES OF EIGHT

We generally associate pirate money with the pieces of eight. Ships captured by pirates in the eighteenth century would most likely have it's funds and treasure in gold and silver coins, newly minted in Mexico. The Spanish coins were struck in such great quantities that they became the principal money in many countries of the world that had no coinage of their own or not enough for commercial use.

The American Colonies used Spanish coinage throughout the entire country in the colonial period, even though prices and accounts were reckoned in pounds, and shillings, their equivalents were given in the Spanish units. The colonies rated five shillings as being worth one Spanish silver dollar in 1642.

Many of the paper notes of continental currency issued between 1775 and 1885 specified their values payable in "Spanish Milled Dollars" be-

cause the Spanish silver was the main money in circulation.

It was a logical step to base the new American Dollar of the U. S. of America on a familiar coin none other than the Spanish Silver Dollar, or Piece of Eight, all though the U.S. started minting its own coinage in 1790. The foreign coins continued to circulate in greater quantities than those being produced locally. In fact the Spanish Milled Dollar and its fractions together with the coins of the Republic of Mexico continued to circulate as legal tender in the United States until 1860.

The first pieces of eight were struck in Mexico or the New World during the reign of Philip 11 around 1535-98, they continued to be struck in very crude form until 1732. At the time of March 29, 1732, the first round coins with a milled edge were struck in gold and silver in

the Mexico Mint. This marked a new advance over the old hammered irregular cobs. The new coins were round and more attractive, and easily stacked for counting and more difficult to clip and counterfeit.

The new coins of the 1732 period bore the winged bust of Philip V and were known as the "peluconas" in Spanish derived from the word "peluca" meaning wig.

Pieces of Eight refer also to the eight reals and Spanish milled dollars which both have somewhat the same reverse.

The same design was used on the smaller denominations of 4, 2, 1, and 1/2 reals. Mexico was the first of the Spanish Domain to have the round milled coin. The other Spanish American countries did not modernize their minting until many years later.

Ed Young

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(continued from pg 2)

As one of our officers so aptly put it, "It's so hard to build up an organization and so easy to tear it down!"

A lot of fine people have tried their level best to help you and me over the years. After twentyone years it probably would be hundreds. Even the past president's club is growing into

a big bunch of fellows. Now, even some have gone to that promised land of the thirty-dollar double-eagles.

Just for a change, let's all give a pat on the back to good old Colorado-Wyoming!.

C.Gale Klein

Footnote:

(1) As it was, collectors around here had neither the time nor money to attend regional conventions that were fine but distant. Vacations were all too short to make such trips even for their pet hobby.

Another dream we had in 1952, was that we might grow to have prestige and position enough to invite the A.N.A. here for our annual convention. As most of you know, we did that and were one of the sponsors for the show that materialized in 1963 -Denver.

program?

TO GIVE YOU a few ideas on a program I am listing some of the recent ones I know of. I hope you might use some for your club.

A policeman talking on the security in the home.

A distributor of alarm systems, again on home protection.

Presentation on Mexican coinage.

Canada and its coinage.

Investment service speaking on gold coins.

Talk on pattern coins.

Bank executive talking on Federal Reserve System.

Show and tell by members.

Return in 5 days to:
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